



*Questions?*

*Office on Violence Against Women*  
**Administrators'  
Corner**



*Great  
Ideas?*

S\*T\*O\*P Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

January, 2006

## OVW STOP Unit Newsletter

### Holiday Greetings!

**I**t was wonderful seeing all of you in Chicago!

Following the STOP Administrator's meeting in Chicago, you should have received the following three (3) communications from OVW:

- Memo from Director Diane Stuart
- Answers from Marnie Shiels to the questions raised at the meeting
- An email soliciting those interested in being a part of the working group for the STOP Administrator's Manual and the Peer-to-Peer mentor program.

If you did not receive these items, please notify your Program Specialist.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **New Administrators Meeting**

We will be holding a Meeting for New STOP Administrators in February, 2006, and are in the process of developing an agenda. If you are a new STOP Administrator and would like to have a particular topic included, please let us know ASAP. We will also be recruiting veteran administrators to assist us with the facilitation of this meeting.

#### **Working Group for the STOP Administrator's Manual and the Peer-to-Peer program.**

We will be contacting those of you who expressed interest in the working group for the STOP Administrator's manual and the Peer-to-Peer program to arrange a conference. If you are interested, but have not yet responded to the initial email, please contact your Program Specialist as soon as possible.

#### **Focus Group**

We will be convening a STOP Administrator's focus group early next year with 20-25 Administrators to discuss overarching issues. If you are interested in participating, please email your Program Specialist.

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:**

#### **Solicitation**

The STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program solicitation was posted on December 6<sup>th</sup>. **Applications are due on January 19<sup>th</sup>.** Please be sure to read the solicitation thoroughly, as there have been some changes. Additionally, please keep in mind that letters of support must be included and must be up-to-date.

#### **Implementation Plan**

We are quickly approaching the **120** day deadline in which to submit your implementation plan. States must develop their state implementation plans

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through deliberative consultation and coordination with a broad range of participants, specifically nongovernmental, nonprofit victim services programs (including sexual assault and domestic violence programs). States must demonstrate through the plan that they have consulted and coordinated in a meaningful way with sexual assault and domestic violence victim services programs and coalitions. States are also strongly encouraged to involve representatives from Indian tribal governments in their planning processes and to consider the needs of Indian tribes in developing the state's law enforcement, prosecution, court, and victim services strategies. If you need any assistance in conducting the state planning process and developing implementation plans, please refer to STOP State Implementation Plans: A Tool for Administrators, on the OVW Web Site, which is located at [www.usdoj.gov/ovw](http://www.usdoj.gov/ovw).

***How do I know if I need to submit an implementation plan this year?***

Beginning in FY 2003, states and territories could satisfy the requirement to submit an annual implementation plan by submitting full implementation plans every three years. **In the intervening years (e.g., FY 2004 and FY 2006), the state would fulfill the implementation plan requirement by providing to OVW a certification that indicates whether or not the three-year plan has changed, and if so, outlining the changes in the plan for that year.** States that submitted a one year implementation plan in FY 2004 or a two year plan in 2003 should complete a full implementation plan in FY 2006.

**Reports**

State Administrators were initially given until October 11, 2005 to submit the annual progress report in GMS and fedex the subgrantee reports (on a CD) to OVW. To date, many State

Administrators have yet to submit your reports. We are aware that there have been challenges uploading reports into GMS. If you need assistance, please contact the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Online Grants Management System (GMS) at 1-888-549-9901. Also be sure to notify your Program Specialist of any unresolved issues. The **final** date for submission of all reports is January 31st, 2006. It is imperative that you get this information submitted to us prior to that date. Otherwise, information for your state will not be included in OVW's report to Congress. Thanks in advance for your prompt attention to this.

**Reminder:** While you were given until October this year to submit your annual report, the annual report for calendar year 2005 will be due March, 2006.

**QUARTERLY FEATURES**

**Questions of the month**

**Q:** Can STOP funds be used to lease and/or purchase vehicles?

**A:** No, STOP monies cannot be used to lease and/or purchase vehicles.

**Q:** Can STOP funds be used for renovations?

**A:** No, STOP monies cannot be used for renovations.

**Reminder**

OVW is no longer a component of the Office of Justice Programs. Instead OVW is now a separate component under the Department of Justice. Our new website address is [www.usdoj.gov/ovw](http://www.usdoj.gov/ovw).

**Administrator SPOTLight**

Iris Crenshaw is the STOP Administrator for the District of Columbia, Executive Office of the Mayor. Iris has been a Grants Program Manager with the D.C. Government for 2 years and has

managed homeland security, law enforcement and crime victim grants. She previously worked in the private sector as a Safety Manager for Cummins Engine Company, Inc., for 2 years; for the Federal Government (U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA) for 5 years; and for the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry for 6 years overseeing regional programs. She recently completed the Virginia Public Policy Institute Program. Iris has an MBA and a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering Technology.

Iris has this advice for other STOP Administrators:

" Put forth your very best effort in accomplishing any task you undertake. Take the time to put out a professional looking product. Use opportunities that present themselves, to put in a plug for your program and any unmet needs of the program."

**MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

**Farewell to Brenda**

As you are probably aware, Brenda Hollis RETIRED this month. Brenda dedicated 20 years of service to the federal government, with the last 9 years spent here at OVW. All of Brenda's grantees will be contacted shortly by their new Program Specialist.

**Message from the STOP Unit**

We would like to reiterate our commitment to the STOP Formula Grant Program and to you, the STOP Administrators, as we work to improve and strengthen this program while providing you with all the tools necessary to run your state's program. To reiterate what Darlene Johnson stated at the STOP Administrator's meeting in Chicago, we request your patience and welcome any and all suggestions to help you run your program and ultimately, improve the delivery of services to all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in your communities.

**Message From Diane Stuart**



Dear Colleagues:

**VAWA HAS BEEN REAUTHORIZED!!**

The President signed into law the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in the presence of several members of Congress in the Oval Office on January 5, 2006. This is a very exciting time for OVW, and we will keep you updated on any significant policy changes as we review the new legislation and plan for its implementation.

On January 12, 2006 I will have the honor of accompanying Attorney General Gonzales to St. Louis, Missouri to open the sixth Family Justice Center under President Bush's Special Initiative. Each Center to open thus far has enjoyed fantastic turnout from the communities and this should be no exception. Congratulations to St. Louis and the State of Missouri for recognizing the valuable role these centers play in their community.

The Office on Violence Against Women makes it a priority to meet the needs of grantees through our Technical Assistance Program. In recent weeks there have been numerous questions from our grantees about the OVW Technical Assistance Program. I would like to reassure each of you that OVW Technical Assistance will continue to serve as a critical and reliable source of support for our grantees. With your help, grantees' help, and the help of coalitions and current Technical Assistance Providers we will continue to enhance our delivery and ensure effectiveness. On January 18-19, 2006, OVW will hold a meeting in Washington, D.C. with all current technical assistance providers to discuss ways we can partner together to meet the needs of the future.

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During this transition period STOP TA will be providing the following limited technical assistance:

- Telephone Consultation
- Review of the State/Territory Three-Year Implementation Plan
- Respond to Six On-Site TA Requests
- Convene a National Meeting for New STOP Administrators
- Civil Legal Institute (CLI)
- Gather and Develop Content for a STOP Administrator Webpage

OVW is busy planning the February meeting for new State Administrators, so if you want to help with facilitation or recommend a topic for the agenda, please let us know right away. Your feedback and participation is always important to us!

If you need assistance with anything else, please contact your Program Specialist.

Warm Regards,

Diane M. Stuart  
Director